

Resolution 2020-07

Cottage Grove Village Board and Cottage Grove Police Department Joint Resolution to Condemn and Confront Racism

WHEREAS, the Cottage Grove Village Board and the Cottage Grove Police Department condemn the appalling, heinous, and heartbreaking use of force incident that resulted in the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis on Monday, May 25, 2020, and declare that the actions and inactions of the police officers involved in that incident were reprehensible and inexcusable; and

WHEREAS, the actions of these police officers negatively impacts the relationships between communities and their police departments.

WHEREAS, the Cottage Grove Village Board and the Cottage Grove Police Department condemn all murder, violence, social injustice and racism targeted at persons of color, specifically toward Black Americans; and

WHEREAS, the acts of intolerable violence and hate that have occurred across this country since its founding are reprehensible and must be acknowledged; and

WHEREAS, the Cottage Grove Village Board and the Cottage Grove Police Department condemn any word, deed or action that seeks to harm another due to their race, ethnicity, culture, religion, beliefs, background, gender or orientation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Cottage Grove Village Board and the Cottage Grove Police Department as follows, that:

The Village Board and the Police Department will continue to seek, identify, and implement measures to ensure that our community stands for justice for all and the right to peaceful assembly and listens to those that have been oppressed and marginalized, to

continue to improve our community so that all feel welcome and are treated equally and with dignity; and

The Village Board and the Police Department commit to bringing together our community to continually review, evaluate and update the Police Department's policies, procedures and community policing strategies; and

The Village Board and the Police Department commit to opening a dialogue that acknowledges, confronts and addresses intentional racism, systemic racism, racial biases and implicit biases within our community; and

The Police Department joins the Village Board in recommitting to its vision that the Village be a safe, friendly and attractive community for businesses, neighbors and families to live, learn, work, play and enjoy the richness and opportunities of a growing Village and ensuring that this vision is a reality for all persons regardless of their race, ethnicity, culture, religion, beliefs, background, gender or orientation.

Adopted this ___ day of June 2020.

Signed – John Williams, Village President

Signed – Daniel Layber, Police Chief

Signed – Troy Allen, Village Trustee

Signed – Jeffrey Lennberg, Village Trustee

Signed – Heidi Murphy, Village Trustee

Signed – Melissa Ratcliff, Village Trustee

Signed – Sarah Valencia, Village Trustee

Signed – Paul VanderVelde, Village Trustee

Attest: _____

Village Clerk Lisa Kalata